Student Activity
Small Actions of Love

Goal: To help students think of things they can do at home, using the gifts and talents that God has given them to answer their missionary call.

Material: Gardening magazines or flower templates. Pencils, crayons, or markers. Glue and scissors.

Instructions: Give students enough time to cut out flowers from gardening magazines and glue a white piece of paper on the back of the flower picture for them to write on. Or allow enough time to pick and color a flower template you have available for them. After, explain to the students how St. Theresa of Liseux would scatter flowers and for every flower she would do a small action or sacrifice of love. Let the students think of small actions of love they can do during the month of October or during mission awareness week. They can write one thing on the back of the flower. Encourage the students to do as many flowers as possible.

October is the month of the missions. St. Theresa is the patroness of the missions. Through her example, we are taught that everything we do—no matter how ordinary or small—can be done for the love of God, if we are humble and always put God first in our lives. Everything that we do can be a prayer to God saying, “just as you have loved me I will also love others.” During the mission awareness week we are going to be learning more about the missions. We will learn how mission work is done throughout the whole world and how we can start living our missionary call from our own home. Follow St. Theresa’s example by doing little acts of love in your daily lives as missionaries. The ordinary will become the extraordinary because we will express the love of God to others answering our baptismal call to be missionaries.

St. Theresa is usually pictured carrying a bouquet of roses. She would scatter flowers and each flower would represent a little sacrifice or a little action for God and love. Shortly before she died, she promised, “I will spend my heaven doing good on earth. I will let fall from heaven a shower of roses.” Let us also shower each other’s lives with flowers of little acts of love.

(Explain that the students will either cut out pictures of flowers from gardening magazines or use flower templates. On the back of the flower, paste a blank cardstock circle on which you will write a prayer or petition.)

After our prayers or petitions are done we are going to scatter the flowers on our prayer table and remind the students of their petitions as they celebrate mission awareness week.
Student Activity
My Way to God

Grades: 3rd - 5th

Goal: To make students think of things they can do at home, using the gifts and talents that God has given them to answer their mission call and grow closer to God.

Instructions: Copy a worksheet for every student. Use the letters below to list ten little things you will do to grow closer to God each day.

October is the month of the missions. St. Theresa of Lisieux is the Patron saint of the missions. Through her little acts of love, she would make her way to God. She would do these little acts of love with humility. Think of ways that you can also be humble and do little acts of love like St. Theresa of Lisieux.
**Student Activity**

**Little Flowers of Love**

**Grades: 6th - 8th**

**Goal:** To make students think of things they can do at home, using the gifts and talents that God has given them.

**Materials:** Strips of paper, tissue paper, green pipe cleaners, pens, pencils.

**Instructions:** On a small strip of paper, have each student write out a small sacrifice or something that they will do to be kind to others. Then, they should fold the strip of paper and place it in a small square of tissue paper and twist it to make a flower. Secure the flower with a green pipe cleaner stem. When the flower is done, they can place it in their prayer boxes.

October is the month of the missions. St. Theresa of Lisieux is the patron saint of the missions. As a cloistered nun she could not travel or do missionary work but she would support the missions with prayers and sacrifices unceasingly, with her little ways. As a Carmelite nun she would tell herself, “Love proves itself by deeds, so how am I to show my love? Great deeds are forbidden me. The only way I can prove my love is by scattering flowers and these flowers are every little sacrifice, every glance and word, and the doing of the least actions of love.” Every opportunity she had she sacrificed, no matter how small it might seem. She would smile at the sisters she did not like, ate everything she was given without complaining, often getting the worst leftovers. Most of the time her little sacrifices would go unnoticed. However, she persisted, never changed her ways and was always making little sacrifices.

After her death some of the Carmelite sisters thought nothing else would be said about St. Theresa of Lisieux. However, her sister found her self written autobiography. After reading it, she shared it with other convents and religious communities. Those that read it were very touched and inspired by her example of her little ways. So much so that many starting following her example. She changed the lives, of many all because she never stopped sharing the love of God with others through her small sacrifices. Discuss with the students: “Can the power of love change the world?”

Love is such a wonderful emotion and we all experience it in different forms: our family, our friends, the love of your parents and in the church. Feeling loved helps us to overcome lots of obstacles. The ultimate sacrifice and the greatest act of love was when the Son of God, Jesus, gave His life for our salvation. When we know the love of God, we change for the better. God’s love brings us joy and peace. It also calls us to share this love with others, the same way that missionaries do. St. Theresa experienced it through her little ways and shared it the same way.

Ask the students how the attitude and small sacrifices that St. Theresa of Lisieux made allowed her to influence the lives of people and how it helped them grow closer to God. Let us also follow St. Theresa Lisieux’s little ways.

Theresa is often called “The Little Flower.” Her acts of love were like little flowers that she planted in God’s garden. Give each student a small strip of paper. Ask them to write on their paper one act of love they have done or will do today. Have them wrap the paper inside a small square of tissue paper and twist it to make a flower. Secure the flower with a green pipe cleaner stem. Invite the students to place the flowers in their prayer boxes to remind them of the acts of love they have done or the acts of love they will do.